MUSEUM NEWS

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LONDON VISITORS — JAMES JOSEPH TISSOT (1836-1902)

GIFT OF EDWARD DRUMMOND LIBBEY

THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART
FOUNDED BY EDWARD DRUMMOND LIBBEY

TISSOT PAINTING COMES TO TOLEDO

James Joseph Tissot, now perhaps best known for his illustrations for the New Testament, during his lifetime achieved great success as a painter as well as illustrator, both in France and England. His paintings are rarely seen in America, as most of them are in private collections and galleries in the two countries in which he lived.

Born in France, he studied art as a young man and was making a reputation for himself as an illustrator, when the Franco-Prussian War broke out. He took part in the Siege of Paris in 1870 and shortly thereafter, because of political complications, left for England, where he lived for the next ten years. During that time his best paintings were completed, many of them being accepted for the exhibitions of the Royal Academy and of the Grosvenor Galleries, London.

London Visitors was in the Royal Academy show of 1874. It is a fine example of Tissot's most characteristic work, showing his interest in the detail of costumes, architecture, and in telling a story. The "visitors" are on the steps of the National Gallery, through the colonnade of which may be seen the church of St. Martin's-in-the-Field. The boys, probably acting as guides, are "Blue Coats" wearing the costume of the orphanage of Christ's Hospital, founded in 1552 in buildings given to the City of London by Henry VIII. There was little change in the costume through the centuries,—the long blue coat, red leather belt, and yellow stockings having been worn also in the sixteenth century.

The Museum is pleased to exhibit this interesting scene of London in the nineteenth century to its summer visitors. The painting is being shown in the Rotunda, Gallery 26.

Wharf Players, Moonlight — Carl Gaertner

ANNUAL EXHIBITION SELECTED AMERICAN PAINTINGS

THE PARK HOWARD COOK

THE ANNUAL EXHIBITION of selected American paintings, opening on Sunday June 8, is the 39th in the series of summer shows presented to acquaint Museum visitors with contemporary painting in the United States.

Eighty-four works have been chosen by Otto Wittmann, Jr., Assistant Director, from the year's most important exhibitions, including those at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Philadelphia, and the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York. From the latter comes the Guy Pene du Bois canvas, Tricorne Hat, illustrated below. Wharf Players, Moonlight, by Carl Gaertner, also illustrated, has been shown at the Audubon Artists Exhibition and the American Academy of Arts and Letters in New York, the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, and the California Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco. Ogden Pleissner's Normandie was awarded the Second Altman Prize at the 1952 National Academy of Design exhibition, and Charles Sibley received the Truman Award for work by an artist under thirty-five for his Harbor Island, in the 1951 Academy show. Andrew Wyeth's The Revenant was in the exhibition assembled by the American Federation of Arts, shown in four places in Germany late in 1951, and other paintings have been catalogued in shows throughout the country.

TRICORNE HAT GUY PENE DU BOIS

There are paintings in all the current styles, from the realistic, represented by such works as the figures in landscape of John Koch's Hanging Clothes, to the non-objective composition, The Herald, by Hans Hofmann.

The exhibition, occupying six galleries, will continue throughout the summer, closing Sunday, Aug. 31.

ADMISSION FREE AT ALL TIMES

HOURS: Sunday, Mondays, and
Holidays, 1 - 5 P.M.
Other days, 9 A.M. - 5 P.M.

THE TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART
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HAVE YOU SEEN?

MESOPOTAMIAN ANTIQUITIES

In their new arrangement in lighted cases. Some 3000-year-old pottery, jewelry and sculpture from our own excavations have recently been installed in the ground floor lobby adjoining the School Vestibule.

ITALIAN MAJOLICA

A large Florentine jar of the 15th century, decorated with fish and oak leaves, and a lustred Deruta plate of the 16th century added to the collection recently, shown in Gallery 5.

ENGLISH WATER COLORS

Attractive pictures by 18th and 19th century English artists, representative of the best work in this field. These are shown in the School Vestibule.

GREEK VASES

In the Classic Court display of Greek pottery, two Fifth Century B.C. black-figured vases, and examples of the many shapes and types of decoration of ancient Greek vases.